

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

---

**MAILED** Ex parte MASAO NOGUCHI, AKIHIKO NAKASHIMA,  
SHIGERU SHIRAI and MASAACKI KAWAGURI

---

MAR 03 2004

PAT. & T.M. OFFICE  
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

Appeal No. 2004-0672  
Application No. 09/894,704

---

COMMUNICATION

---

On December 30, 2003, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (hereinafter the Board) mailed an Order Returning Undocketed Appeal (Paper No. 19) wherein the Board ordered the examiner to provide a full-text English translation of Japanese Patent No. 10-28656 to Shirai. On January 15, 2004, this application was returned to the Board. A review of the application reveals that the examiner has provided a full-text translation of the aforementioned Japanese patent.

Appeal No. 2004-0672  
Application No. 09/894,704

This application is now ready to be assigned to a merits panel who will then decide the appeal and render a decision in due course.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By: Frances C. Han  
FRANCES C. HAN  
Program and Resource Administrator

cc: Ratner Prestia  
P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980

FCH:clm